

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 23, 2004. In the Office Action, claims 1-5 were rejected and claims 6-20 were allowed. With this Amendment, claims 1-3, 5 and 14 are amended and the remaining claims are unchanged in the application. Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 6-20. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of pending claims 1-5.

I. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In section 1 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that a copy of document AL, cited in an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on June 20, 2001, was not provided and therefore has not been considered. As evidenced by an enclosed copy of a return postcard received from the USPTO, Applicants had submitted copies of the references cited in the above-noted IDS. With this Amendment, Applicants have enclosed a further copy of document AL and respectfully request that it be considered.

II. DRAWING OBJECTIONS

In section 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings. Specifically, the Examiner stated that "the claimed track pitches with respect to head widths (for example claim 2) and servo sectors with a pitch 'at least as large as the largest pitch of the data storage tracks' in claims 3, 4 and 6 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s)." With this Amendment, FIG. 3 has been amended to include head 110 (also shown in FIG. 1). An approximate width of a writer portion of head 110 and a corresponding track pitch are both indicated by reference numeral 111 in amended FIG. 3. A corresponding amendment has been made to the Specification. Since head 110 and data tracks 156 were already shown in FIGS. 1 and 3, respectively, and the relationship between the widths of the head 110 and the track(s) 156 was described in the Specification as filed, no new matter has been entered. Applicants respectfully

point out that language relating to servo sectors with a pitch "at least as large as the largest pitch of the data storage tracks" only appears in claims 3 and 5 and not in claims 4 and 6 as stated in the Office Action. Claims 3 and 5 have been amended to replace the language "servo sectors arranged at a pitch at least as large as the largest pitch of the data storage tracks" with "servo bands arranged at a servo band density having a pitch at least as large as the largest pitch of the data storage tracks." Support for these amendments can be found in the Specification on page 13, lines 8-11. The servo band density or pitch being greater than the data track density is clearly illustrated in FIG. 3. Therefore, the drawing rejections should be withdrawn.

III. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

In section 4 of the Office Action, claims 1,2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Albrecht et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,999,351.

Claim 1 includes "a plurality of head/surface combinations each including a moveable storage surface containing adjacent data storage tracks . . . , the head having a width defining a maximum track density between adjacent data storage tracks." (Emphasis Added). The Office Action states that Albrecht et al. shows this limitation in column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 22. However, that language relates to selecting wider (or narrower) heads to complement corresponding low-density or (high-density) disk surfaces. (See column 5, lines 17-22 of Albrecht). Thus, in Albrecht, a head with an appropriate width is selected based on the required storage density or track density for a particular surface. This is in contrast with the head having a width defining a maximum track density between adjacent data storage tracks as required by claim 1. Thus, Albrecht does not anticipate claim 1.

Claim 2, which depends from claim 1, includes "an arrangement of the data storage tracks at a pitch defined by the width of the confronting head." For reasons provided above, the cited language of Albrecht (column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 22) does not teach this element. Thus, Albrecht does not anticipate claim 2. Further, claim 4 is patentably distinct over Albrecht by virtue of its dependency from claim 2.

IV. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

In section 5 of the Office Action, claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Golowka et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,052,250.

In rejecting claim 1 based on Golowka, the Examiner states that Golowka teaches a disk arrangement that uses a plurality of head/surface combinations (figure 2) which have head widths that maximize track densities. Applicants respectfully point out that the elements of claim 1 do not relate to head/surface combinations, which have head widths that maximize track densities. Specifically, the claimed head/surface combinations each include a "head having a width defining a maximum track density between adjacent data storage tracks," and not maximizing track densities. (Emphasis Added). Thus, claim 1 is not anticipated by Golowka.

Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 2-5 are also allowable over Golowka by virtue of their dependency, either directly or indirectly from allowable independent claim 1. Further, the dependent claims 2-5 set forth numerous elements not shown or suggested in Golowka.

Additionally, allowed claim 14 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims. Favorable action upon all claims is solicited.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

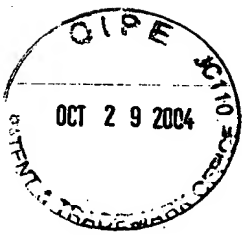
Respectfully submitted,

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"Annotated Marked-up Drawing"

FIG. 3

